

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Registration Form

BA-2765

Touson GARD

1. Name

historic - Bungalow

and/or common - Ports house

2. Location

504 Dunkirk Rd 21212

Anneslie Lots. 63, 64

Lot size 125' x 50' (both together)

3. Classification

category - building

status - occupied

ownership - private

present use - private residence

public acquisition - N/A

4. Owner of Property

name - M.S. Jan & Joan M. Ports

504 Dunkirk Rd 21212

phone - _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse _____

liber 7412

folio 738

6. Representation in Existing

N/A

7. Description

The building at 504 Dunkirk is a 2-2/12 story frame structure, located 2nd from the end in a row of detached bungalow type houses. The original houses in the Anneslie neighborhood were built around 1924-1930 and predate most of the surrounding development. This building's construction is not typical of the surrounding bungalows. It is asymmetrical, appearing almost 2 part or L shaped. It has a 2 part roof, with half as a steep pitch with a dormer window and half with a front gable and what appears to be a 3rd story window. The primary face of the building fronts on a small side street with approx 11-15' of lawn between sidewalk and building. It was originally built between 1924 and 1930 and has gone through 3 major periods of construction/renovation.

Periods of construction.

1st period – The initial purchase of lot can be dated to 1924, no date exists for actual construction but the building was sold again in 1930. *The current owner believes the original owner was also the builder who, purchased several lots to build houses on, used somewhat shabby materials to quickly or cheaply construct his, then went bankrupt in the 1929 depression and sold the house in 1930. Residence was vacant for approximately a year before the sale.* The original construction consisted of the concrete foundation with the building, according to the current owner, covered in cedar shingles (although in the attached old picture, the house does not appear to be shingled). It had a small open sided, covered front porch on the left half of the house. The entrance to the porch was on the side where the current exterior door is. The main entry opened into the living room with all other 1st floor rooms to the right Original heating system was coal.

2nd period – purchased in 1930 by the parents of the current owner it was immediately converted to 2 apts. Porch was enclosed and windows and exterior door added. A separate outside entrance was added to the left side of the house to allow access to the original stairway for 2nd floor tenant. Wall added to back of living room to separate stairway and 2nd floor from rest of house. The conservatory was converted to small bedroom and bathroom and the dining room was used as a bedroom. Living room then had an additional doorway added made to allow access to kitchen from living room so that bedroom could be private. Heating was converted to oil with same cast iron boiler being used. Asbestos siding was added in the 1940's.

3rd period – wall added turning original dining room into a small office and leaving a hallway. A concrete wall/fence with 2 pillars in front of house was torn down. Heating was replaced with gas. Asbestos siding was removed and current aluminum siding added in 1986.

7.1 Description (cont)

Current Appearance

Current incarnation is a blue, aluminum sided structure with an exposed concrete foundation scored to resemble block and an asphalt roof. Fully enclosed front porch with large 2nd period front window and 2nd period entrance on the left side. Left/west side shows the original exterior chimney with full window to left of chimney, full height but thin window to left. An additional entryway (added 2nd period) with steps is just beyond this thin window. Back/North side of house has single floor structure with a small covered porch on top. Porch roof was added 2nd period. Right/east side of the house faces the driveway with original paired windows that are 6/1. Lower half of all windows is larger than top. Small side window on enclosed front porch.

1st floor – The front door opens into small room that was previously the porch. The original front door with top and side lights is now an interior door. The original brick fireplace and hearth have been painted white and are on the left in living room. There are original hardwood floors with inlay detail at the walls. The ceiling is a drop ceiling from 2nd period with original fixtures removed. Back wall was constructed in 2nd period as part of a 2 apt conversion. It has door from 2nd period leading to original stairway. Back wall also shows indentation on right side where a 2nd period doorway was covered over. Original french doors on the right leading to small hallway that leads to a small bedroom and bathroom towards the front of the house (originally a conservatory with french doors, converted 2nd period). a small office across from the french doors (hallway and this room were originally the formal dining room) and toward the back of the house an eat-in area (original kitchen) and the actual kitchen (original pantry).

2nd floor – The stairway has small landing at the top with 3 bedrooms and a bath radiating from it. To the left is the bathroom, all original tile and fixtures are in place with the exception of the toilet. Two square original stain glass windows are on outside wall with a built in wooden medicine cabinet with original iron hardware inbetween. Kitchen still exists in the smaller room from 2nd period though not in use. Some of the original 1st floor wooden kitchen cabinets were moved up when the house was 1st converted to 2 apartments. Original wall light fixtures have been removed from this room but exist in all others. The bedroom under the steep roof pitch shows the sloped arch on one wall. There are beautiful old paired light fixtures in the two main bedrooms that are part of the original construction and intended for ladies dressing tables to be placed between. These lights, the bathroom stained glass and the original glass doorknobs are really all that is left to suggest the house's original era. All the floors are the original pine.

3rd floor – The current owner referred to the attic as just a crawl space and was not interested in showing it but, from the outside of the house there is a small window on the right or L half of the house.

Additional buildings – there is a small separate structure on the northwest corner of the building referred to as a "tea house". Part of the original construction it is covered and all 4 walls have large window like openings, much like a separate covered porch. Full garage at Northeast corner of building at end of driveway.

8. Statement of Significance

The property was never a true bungalow and the renovations cover many of the original features. While the house still has some wonderful examples of the original era, such as the frenchdoors, the bedroom lights, the glass doorknobs and the stained glass windows, the property itself is not a significant example of the "Anneslie bungalow".

11. Form Prepared by

Barbara Elliott
209 Rodgers Forge Rd
Balto. Md.

12/14/94

Additional Documentation

Black and white photos of the building

Hand drawn 1st floor interiors outlining the 3 major periods of renovation

Old newspaper copy of the original building

Chain of title

Liber-folio	7412-738	
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Deed		
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GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

the most recent deed listing – I did not get all the information on the first visit and it was not available on my second visit – although M.S. Jan Ports in the next deed is the current owner

Liber-folio	7045-607	
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Deed	11/14/1985	\$61,000
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GRANTOR: Lutie G. Ports

GRANTEE: M.S. Jan Ports

Liber-folio	2397-111	
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Deed	11/24/1955	\$5.00
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GRANTOR: Annie E. Beck (unmarried)

GRANTEE: Murrell L.O & Lutie G Ports

\$90.00 ground rent

(refers to a deed of assignment dated 6/10/1930 Land Records Liber LMCLM No 855-43 granted by George Hensler unto Murrell L.O Ports)

Liber-folio	877-435	
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Deed	7/8/1931	\$5.00
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GRANTOR: John G. Hiskey

GRANTEE: Annie Beck

1 of 5 lots listed in the deed, the other 4 lots were scattered around the city –

Another deed immediately followed

Deed	7/8/1931	\$5.00
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GRANTOR: Annie Beck

GRANTEE: John Hiskey

Liber-folio	578-298	
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Deed	8/1/1923	\$5.00
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GRANTOR: Benjamin R. Sale & wife

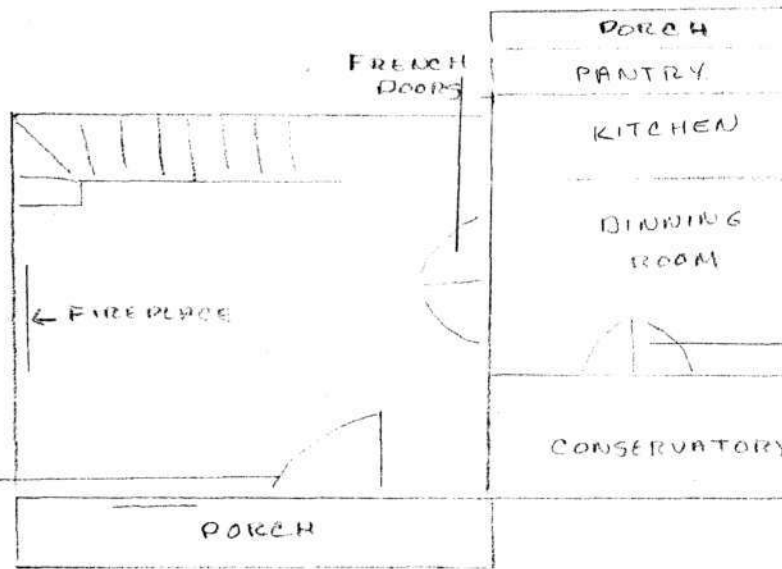
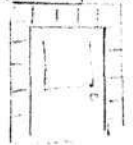
GRANTEE: Annie Beck

handwritten deed – appeared to be ground only, no mention of a building – hard to read but there is something about a 99 year lease, renewable forever at \$90 a year to John W. Forte -- and something about Annie Beck being an heir

ORIGINAL
1927 - 1930

BA-2765

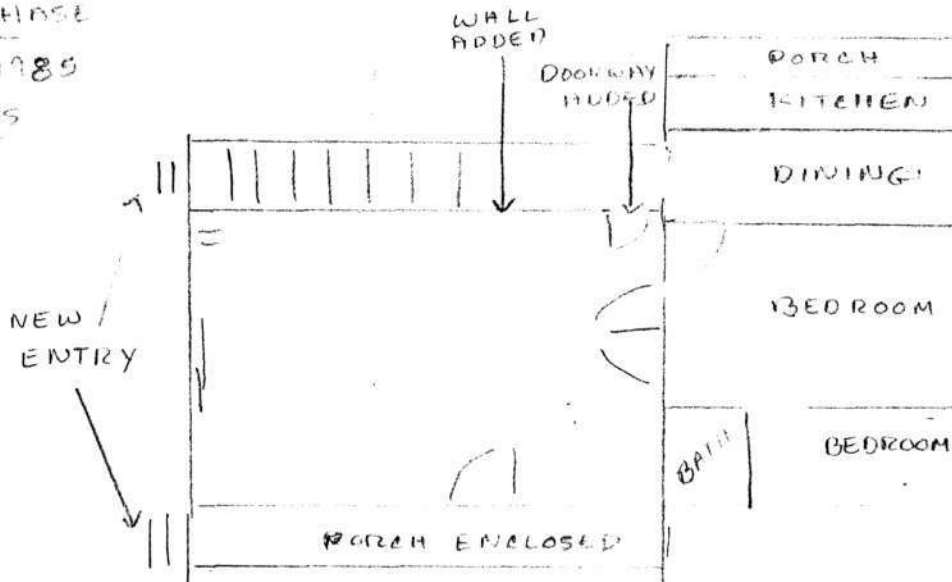
original door - top +
side light in brass
knob + door plate



2ND PHASE

1930 - 1985

2 APTS

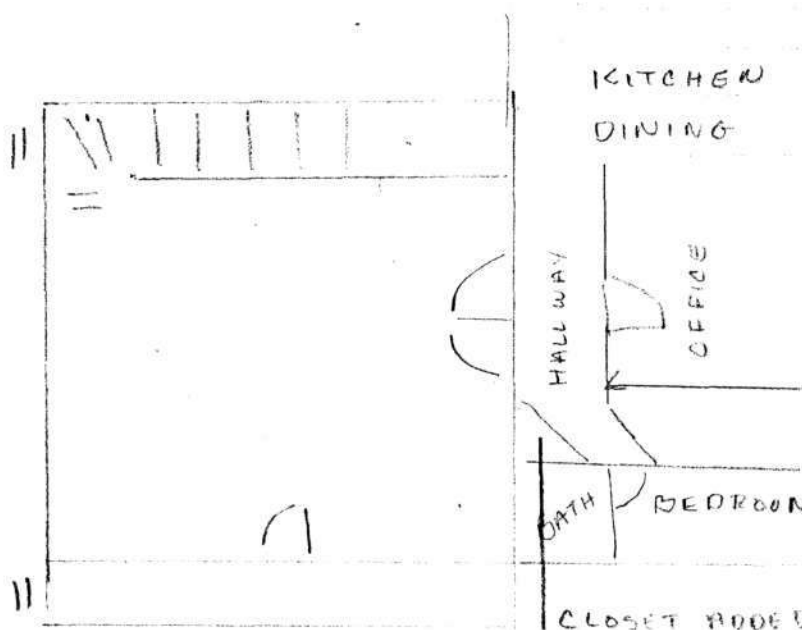


Very good way
to show changes

3RD PHASE

1985 - present

SINGLE
FAMILY

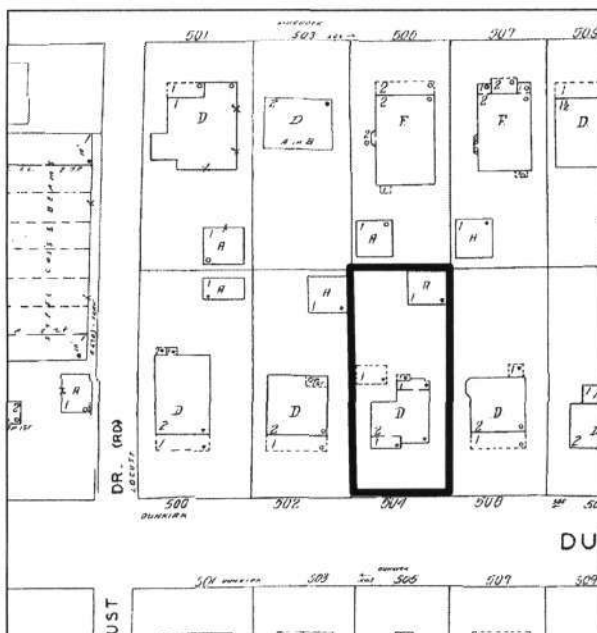


BA-2765
 Ports House
 504 Dunkirk Road, Govans
 Towson quadrangle



Sanborn Map, 1955

Microsoft Virtual Earth image, 2007





front of house

BA-2765



front of house

BA-2765

enclosed porch on the left



teahouse

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rear of house

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